of all claims are respectfully requested in view of the proposed
amendments and remarks below.

<div align="center">

Amendments

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Please amend the above-identified application, as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1, 14, 19, 23, 31, 34, 37 & 41 as set
forth below.

1   1.   (Amended) A method for encoding a sequence of video
2   frames comprising for each frame of the sequence of video frames:

3   (a)   encoding said frame employing at least one
4   controllable parameter; and

5   (b)   adapting said encoding (a) of said frame when said
6   frame is a still frame, said adapting including adjusting
7   said at least one controllable parameter employed in
8   encoding said still frame to minimize <u>after decoding</u>
9   <u>thereof, visually perceptible</u> pulsation artifacts between
10   still frames of a sequence of still frames within said
11   sequence of video frames, wherein said still frame comprises
12   one still frame of said sequence of still frames.

1   14.   (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said frame
2   comprises a plurality of macroblocks, and wherein said
3   determining comprises determining whether said frame comprises a
4   motion frame, and when so, said method further comprises for each
5   of at least some macroblocks of said motion frame:

6   (i)   determining whether said macroblock comprises a

7   still macroblock;

8   (ii) encoding said macroblock employing at least one

9   controllable parameter; and

10   (iii) adapting said encoding of said macroblock when

11   said determining (i) determines said macroblock to be said

12   still macroblock, said adapting including adjusting said at

13   least one controllable parameter employed in encoding said

14   still macroblock to minimize <u>after decoding thereof,</u>

15   <u>visually perceptible</u> pulsation artifacts between

16   corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames in said

17   sequence of video frames.

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1   19. (Amended) A method for encoding a frame of a sequence

2   of video frames, said frame having a plurality of macroblocks,

3   said method comprising for each of at least some macroblocks of

4   said plurality of macroblocks:

5   (a)   encoding said macroblock employing at least one

6   controllable parameter; and

7   (b)   adapting said encoding of said macroblock when

8   said macroblock is a still macroblock, said adapting

9   including adjusting said at least one controllable parameter

10   employed in encoding said still macroblock to minimize <u>after</u>

11   <u>decoding thereof, visually perceptible</u> pulsation artifacts

12   between corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames

13   in said sequence of video frames.

1 23. (Amended) A system for encoding a sequence of video
2 frames comprising:

3   a pre-encode processing unit, said pre-encode
4   processing unit comprising:

5   a statistics measurement unit for use in
6   determining whether a current frame of the sequence of
7   frames comprises a still frame;

8   a control unit for modifying at least one
9   controllable parameter employed in encoding said still
10   frame to minimize <u>after decoding thereof, visually</u>
11   <u>perceptible</u> pulsation artifacts between still frames of
12   a sequence of still frames when said statistics
13   measurement unit determines said current frame to
14   comprise said still frame; and

15   an encoding engine for encoding said current frame of
16   the sequence of video frames using the at least one
17   controllable encode parameter set by said pre-encode
18   processing unit.

1   31. (Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein when said
2 current frame comprises other than said still frame, said control
3 unit further comprises means for adapting encoding each of at
4 least one macroblock of said current frame when said macroblock
5 comprises a still macroblock, said means for adapting including
6 means for adjusting said at least one controllable parameter
7 employed in encoding said still macroblock to minimize <u>after</u>
8 <u>decoding thereof, visually perceptible</u> pulsation artifacts

9   between corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames in

10   said sequence of video frames.

1   34.   (Amended) A system for encoding a macroblock of a

2   plurality of macroblocks of a frame in a sequence of video

3   frames, said system comprising:

         an encoding engine for encoding said macroblock of said

5   frame using at least one controllable encode parameter; and

6   means for adapting said encoding of said macroblock

7   when said macroblock is a still macroblock, said adapting

8   including means for adjusting said at least one controllable

9   parameter employed in encoding said still macroblock to

10   minimize after decoding thereof, visually perceptible

11   pulsation artifacts between corresponding still macroblocks

12   of adjacent frames in said sequence of video frames.

1   37.   (Amended) A computer program product comprising a

2   computer usable medium having computer readable program code

3   means therein for use in encoding a sequence of video frames,

4   said computer readable program code means in said computer

5   program product comprising for each frame of the sequence of

6   video frames:

7   computer readable program code means for causing a

8   computer to affect determining whether said frame comprises

9   a still frame;

10   computer readable program code means for causing a

11   computer to affect encoding said frame employing at least

12   one controllable encode parameter; and

13   computer readable program code means for causing a

14   computer to affect adapting said encoding of said frame when

15   said determining determines said frame to be said still

16   frame, said adapting including adjusting said at least one

17   controllable parameter employed in encoding said still frame

18   to minimize <u>after decoding thereof, visually perceptible</u>

19   pulsation artifacts between still frames of a sequence of

20   still frames within said sequence of video frames, wherein

21   said still frame comprises one still frame of said sequence

22   of still frames.

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1   41.   (Amended) The computer readable program code means of

2   claim 37, wherein said frame comprises a plurality of

3   macroblocks, and wherein said computer readable program code

4   means for causing a computer to affect determining comprises

5   computer readable program code means for causing a computer to

6   affect determining whether said frame comprises a motion frame,

7   and when so, said computer readable program code means further

8   comprises for each of at least some macroblocks of said motion

9   frame:

10   computer readable program code means for causing a

11   computer to affect determining whether said macroblock

12   comprises a still macroblock;

13   computer readable program code means for causing a

14   computer to affect encoding said macroblock employing at

15   least one controllable parameter; and

16   computer readable program code means for causing a

17   computer to affect adapting said encoding of said macroblock

18   when said macroblock comprises said still macroblock, said